

Mail: P.O. Box 775000  
Memphis, Tennessee 38177-5000



November 9, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

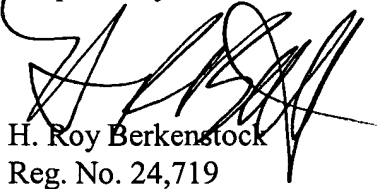
Re: U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 10/714,746  
Applicant: Henry Bourgeois  
Filed: November 17, 2003  
For: TIMBER PILE CONNECTOR

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are:

1. Transmittal letter;
2. Amendment, which includes certificate of mailing;
3. Smooth copy of amended claims; and
4. Return receipt postcard.

Respectfully submitted,



H. Roy Berkenstock  
Reg. No. 24,719

/lv  
Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:

**Henry Bourgeois**

Filed: **November 17, 2003**

Serial No. **10/714,746**

For: **TIMBER PILE CONNECTOR**

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Art Unit: **3351**

Examiner: **Jong-Suk Lee**

Attorney Docket No.: **A317498.2US**

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
Mail Stop Amendment  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action issued in the above identified application on August 11, 2004. Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the subject of the invention and the assessment of the prior art.

Applicant herein amends the independent claims 1 and 10 by adding language particularizing the distinction between Applicant's invention and the devices illustrated in the references McDearmid, Hedstrom and Ferguson.

Applicant amends the claims under the Revised Format by providing full pages of marked-up claims and a scanable copy of the amended claims.